A PROCLAMATION,

Offering a Reward and Indemnity to ſuch as ſhall diſcover the burning of the Houſe of Prieſt-field,

CHARLES, by the Grace of God, King of Great *Britain*, *France*, and *Ireland*, Defender of the Faith; To Our Lyon King at Arms, and his brethren Heraulds, Macers of our Privy Council, Purſevants, Meſſengers at Arms, Our Sheriffs in that part, conjunctly and ſeverally, ſpecially conſtitute, Greeting; Foraſmuch as the Government of this Our ancient Kingdom, being entruſted to Us by the Almighty God, we have ever endeavoured, with a Royal and Fatherly care, to preſerve it free from Inteſtine Diſorders; and Civil War, the greateſt of all dangers (becauſe Our Subjects muſt fall therein on both ſides) by repreſſing all Tumults and Combinations, in their firſt appearances: In order whereunto, being informed that ſome diſorderly Boys, as well Students in the Colledge of *Edinburgh*, as Apprentices of that Our City, did of late enter into Bonds and Combinations, and gather themſelves in tumults upon the Streets of that Our City, diffetencing themſelves by cognizances, and threatning to burn the Houſe of *Prieſt-field*, belonging to the Provoſt of that Our City; Our Privy Council did only endeavour to ſecure the Publick Peace, and prevent Inſolences againſt Our Faithful and Loyal Subjects, and albeit We delayed any puniſhment of ſo great Diſorders, till ſuitable means ſhould be offered for preventing the ill conſequences which naturally follow ſuch Licenciouſneſs: Yet ſo far was Our Clemency abuſed, that the ſaid Houſe of *Prieſt-field*, was, to the great aſtoniſhment of all ſober men, burnt down according to theſe threatnings, which is clearly proved to Our Privy Council, by moſt unanſwerable proofs; By which, all Our Loyal and Peaceable Subjects are put in danger, as to their Lives and Fortunes, and the Proteſtant Religion defamed by ſuch as uſe it for a Cloak to their Impieties: We have therefore thought fit, for diſcovery of that dreadful Crime, and to prevent all future miſchiefs, by a moſt exact inquiry into what is paſt, to offer; Likeas, We by advice of Our Privy Council, offer a full Indemnity and Remiſſion to any one who ſhall firſt diſcover the ſaid dreadful Crime, together with the Sum of two thouſand merks for his diſcovery; Which Remiſſion We declare to be as ſufficient, as if the ſame were paſt Our Seals: And which ſum, We hereby Command and Empower the Commiſſioners of Our Theſaury to pay to the ſaid diſcoverer, whom We hereby take into Our ſpecial Protection. And We ordain theſe Preſents to be Publiſhed by you, at the Merkat Croſs of *Edinburgh*, and other places needful, and the ſame to be Printed.

Given under Our Signet, *at* Edinburgh, *the threteenth day of* January, *One thouſand ſix hundred eighty and one, and of Our Reign, the thretty two year.*

Per actum Dominorum, Secreti Concilij.
WIL. PATERSON. *Cl. Sti. Concilij.*

GOD ſave the KING.

Edinburgh, Printed by the Heir of *Andrew Anderſon*, Printer to His moſt Sacred Majeſty, *Anno DOM.* 1681.